

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE.

SKETCHES
OF
LEGISLATORS

AND
STATE OFFICERS

1876-1878.

BY JOHN CARDWELL.

AUSTIN, TEXAS:
DEMOCRATIC STATESMAN STEAM PRINT.
1876.

TWENTY-FOURTH DISTRICT.

County.—Anderson.

REPRESENTATIVE A. T. RAINEY is a native of Alabama, was educated in Greene county, in that State, and is now 53 years old ; has resided in Texas 22 years ; is a lawyer by profession and practice, and is also interested in farming.

He became a politician early in life ; was a delegate to the National Democratic Convention at Baltimore in 1848 ; moved to Arkansas and was a member of the Legislature of that State in 1852-3 ; came to Texas, and three years after doing so became a member of the Texas Legislature, for 1857-8 ; was a member of the State Senate in 1859-60 ; was one of the State electors for President, on the Breckenridge ticket, in 1860 ; became a mem-

ber of the Secession Convention in the early part of 1861, and next devoted himself to the service of the Confederate States. In July, 1861, he left Texas with a company of volunteers for the war, and went to Virginia; was the first captain of the First Texas Regiment, and then major of the same, under appointment by President Davis; became Lieutenant-Colonel of the First Texas, and afterward, upon the death of Col. Hugh McLeod, was promoted to the colonelcy of this regiment. His command was one of the most noted in the history of the war, and was composed of ten Texas companies, with two Irish companies attached; six of these volunteered for twelve months and six for the war, but when the twelve months expired, loving the cause and their commanders, the first six again volunteered, this time for the war, stipulating, under an act of the Confederate Congress, that they should have the right to re-elect their officers. After the battle of Eltham's Landing, Col. Rainey, under this act, was re-elected Colonel of the renowned First Texas Regiment; was dangerously wounded at the battle of Gaines's Farm, during the seven days' fight before Richmond, Virginia,

and in consequence was confined to his bed. in agony, for four long months. Disabled by this wound for field service, he was transferred to the Trans-Mississippi Department, and placed, by General Magruder, in command of the military district of Beaumont, Liberty and Sabine Pass, and subsequently transferred to the command of the Island of Galveston and its fortifications, on which duty he remained for one year. In 1872 Col. Rainey was appointed by the Democratic Convention, held at Corsicana, Elector for President. For many years he has remained in private life, most of the while in bad health. He was nominated and elected to the Fifteenth Legislature by the Democrats of his county, and true to every trust ever confided to him, he represents them nobly.

Col. Rainey is a man of marked ability, a fine speaker, and yet of youthful countenance. He is a gentleman of family, and resides near Palestine, in Anderson county.